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**Justification for locating the Balram Open Cast Expansion Project  
(15MTY) in forest area**

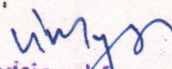
Mineral based projects are site specific and the proposed project expansion area for mining by Balram open cast project expansion (15MTY) is located on the forest area. The proposed area for the project has been proved to have a thick coal seam available at shallow depth for opencast mining. The project is an Expansion project of Balram OCP (Earlier Kalinga OCP) 8 MTY.

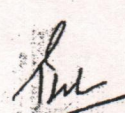
The projected gap between demand and availability by the end of year 2021-22 is projected to be 33.49 MT from the MCL. Further new coal linkages have been given to MCL for which the MCL has already issued LOA. The proposed Expansion Project will meet the coal demand from the MCL, especially to the new consumers and reduce the gap between demand and availability.

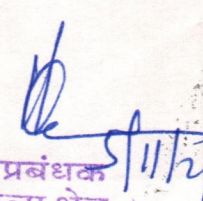
Coal demand and target production as projected is given below:

**Coal demand projection of MCL (Fig. in Mt)**

Sl.no.	Particulars	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
1.	Demand(MTes)	199.79	222.99	222.99	218.50
2.	Production Target(MTes)	178.00	189.50	197.50	204.50
3.	Balance(Mtes)	-21.79	-33.49	-25.49	-14.00

  
Divisional Forest Officer  
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